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The Urban District of Esher



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

AND THE

**SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR**

For the Year Ended 31st December

**1955**



Urban District of Esher

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ANNUAL REPORT  
of the Health and  
Sanitary Conditions  
for the Year 1955

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JAMES BRYAN MORWOOD, M.B., F.R.C.S.I., D.P.H.,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

REGINALD F. WHEELER, F.R.S.H., F.S.I.A.,  
*Senior Sanitary Inspector.*

## **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

*Chairman :* COUNCILLOR W. F. A. SOAN

COUNCILLOR V. J. BULLETT

COUNCILLOR N. H. JONES

.. T. W. CLAYTON

.. R. H. MONTAGUE

.. F. E. HAWTHORNE

.. E. ROYSTON PIKE

.. MRS. J. M. L. HISCOCKS

.. D. H. PYBUS

.. D. FOSTER HOLLINS

.. A. W. P. YOUNG

*Ex-Officio Members :*

COUNCILLOR MRS. G. M. BETTS, J.P. (*Chairman of the Council*).

COUNCILLOR D. MOON (*Vice-Chairman of the Council*).

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## **PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

### **Personnel**

#### **Medical Officer of Health :**

\*J. B. MORWOOD, M.B., F.R.C.S.I., D.P.H.

#### **Senior Sanitary Inspector :**

\*REGINALD F. WHEELER, F.R.S.H., F.S.I.A., A.M.I.S.E.

Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

#### **Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector :**

\*JOHN C. ARMSTRONG, M.S.I.A.

Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

#### **Additional Sanitary Inspector :**

\*FRANK L. BARKER, M.S.I.A.

Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I. Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector.  
Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods, and in Sanitary Science.

#### **Nurse :**

MISS V. DAWSON, S.R.N.

#### **Clerks :**

MISS D. ARNELL

MRS. A. COLEMAN  
(appointed 23/1/56)

MISS O. BROWN

MISS J. L. OLIVER (resigned 16/9/55)

MRS. D. FISHER (appointed 12/9/55, resigned 2/2/56)

#### **Pests Officer :**

R. J. CLARKE

#### **Mortuary Keeper and Disinfecter :**

J. H. DOLLEY

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#### **Clerk and Solicitor of the Council :**

FERDERICK EDWARDS

#### **Public Analyst :**

D. D. MOIR, M.SC., F.R.I.C.

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\* Contribution of salary made from Exchequer

## Urban District of Esher

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COUNCIL OFFICES,  
ESHER.

*June, 1956.*

*To the Chairman and Members  
of the Urban District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1955, which has been prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular No. 42/51.

The health of the district remains good. Once again there have been no cases of diphtheria and it is now more than  $9\frac{1}{2}$  years since the last case occurred.

The situation with regard to tuberculosis is particularly satisfactory. The death rate from this disease has been falling since 1945, as shown in the table on page 10, but the notification rate of new cases remained more or less stationary until 1952. The reason for this was that Mass X-ray and energetic following up by the chest clinic of tuberculosis contacts brought to light many undiscovered cases. Since 1952, in spite of the greater diagnostic facilities, the notification rate of new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis has steadily fallen to 0.44, a record for this district.

In conclusion, I wish to thank members of the Council for their support throughout the year and the staff for its keen co-operation.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. B. MORWOOD,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) ... ..	14,847
Registrar General's estimate of resident population (mid. 1955)	53,630
Number of inhabited houses—end of 1955—according to rate books ... ..	16,867
Rateable Value ... ..	£767,545
Product of a penny rate 1955/56 ... ..	£3,140

### Extracts from Vital Statistics :—

	Total	M.	F.
Live Births ... ..	724	353	371
Legitimate ... ..		341	364
Illegitimate ... ..		12	7

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—13.5.  
Corrected birth rate—13.9.

	Total	M.	F.
Still Births ... ..	9	5	4
Legitimate ... ..	8	5	3
Illegitimate ... ..	1	—	1

Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births—12.3.

	Total	M.	F.
Deaths ... ..	577	298	279

Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population—10.8.

Corrected death rate—9.8.

### Deaths from puerperal causes :—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Total (Live & Still) Births
Puerperal sepsis ... ..	—	—
Other maternal causes ... ..	—	—

### Death rate of infants under 1 year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	20.7
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	19.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	52.6

## BIRTHS

During the year 724 live births were registered, this being 45 more than last year's total. The rate per 1,000 population was 13.9 compared with the rate of 15.0 for England and Wales.

Of the total number, 19 or 2.6% were illegitimate.

## DEATHS

During the year 577 deaths were registered, 17 more than in 1954. The death rate was 9.8 per 1,000 compared with the rate of 11.7 for England and Wales. The infant mortality was 20.7 per 1,000 live births and compares with the rate of 24.9 for England and Wales.

## CAUSES OF DEATH

	M.	F.	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	3	—	3
2. Tuberculosis, other ... ..	1	—	1
3. Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
5. Whooping cough ... ..	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	1	—	1
8. Measles ... ..	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	1	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	4	6	10
11. „ „ lung, bronchus ... ..	25	7	32
12. „ „ breast ... ..	—	10	10
13. „ „ uterus ... ..	—	2	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	43	27	70
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia ... ..	—	1	1
16. Diabetes ... ..	—	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	33	55	88
18. Coronary disease, angina ... ..	53	34	87
19. Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	11	7	18
20. Other heart disease ... ..	26	41	67
21. Other circulatory disease ... ..	14	17	31
22. Influenza ... ..	1	1	2
23. Pneumonia ... ..	9	13	22
24. Bronchitis ... ..	18	8	26
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	4	1	5
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	3	1	4
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa ... ..	—	2	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	7	1	8
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	6	—	6
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations ... ..	6	1	7
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	15	32	47
33. Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	3	3	6
34. All other accidents ... ..	8	6	14
35. Suicide ... ..	4	1	5
36. Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—	—
Total	298	279	577

## DEATHS.—AGE GROUPS

	Under										Total
	1	1—5	5—15	15—25	25—35	35—45	45—55	55—65	65—80	80 & over	
MALES ...	8	3	2	2	2	12	22	45	141	61	298
FEMALES	7	1	1	—	3	5	15	27	115	105	279
TOTAL	15	4	3	2	5	17	37	72	256	166	577

## STATEMENT SHOWING WHERE DEATHS OCCURRED

In District ...	348
Hospitals outside district ...	197
Died in other districts ...	32
TOTAL	577

## CAUSES OF DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

Prematurity : 2 hours; 7 hours; 7 months; 3 days.  
 Pneumonia : 3 months; 9 months.  
 Primary atelectasis : 1 day.  
 Hydrocephalus : 2 months; 10 months.  
 Congenital heart disease : 4 days; 5 days.  
 Cerebral haemorrhage : 1 hour; 11 hours.  
 Acute suppurative bronchitis : 22 hours.  
 New born : inhalation of birth fluids.

## SUMMARY OF BIRTH, INFANT MORTALITY AND DEATH RATES FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS

Year	Births	Infant Mortality		Deaths
		Births	Mortality	
1950	14.1	22.0	...	10.1
1951	12.6	20.8	...	11.1
1952	12.9	17.5	...	10.4
1953	13.2	18.2	...	10.2
1954	13.3	16.2	...	9.7
1955	13.9	20.7	...	9.8

## MORTUARY

The number of bodies received in the public mortuary was as follows :—  
 For post-mortem examination and inquest... 9  
 For post-mortem examination only ... 43  
 TOTAL ... 52

## NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1955

	Total	AGE GROUPS													Over 65
		Under		1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65		
..	19	1	1	1	2	1	6	1	2	4	1	—	—		
..	16	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	3	4	5		
..	5	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	1	—	—		
..	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—		
..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—		
..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—		
..	327	8	22	27	26	52	179	9	2	2	—	—	—		
..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
..	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	1	—	—		
..	14	—	—	—	—	2	11	1	—	—	—	—	—		
..	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	6	7	1		
..	7	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	3	1	—		
..	30	—	8	2	4	2	12	1	—	1	—	—	—		
TOTAL	458	9	31	30	33	57	216	12	5	25	16	18	6		

## WARDS

	Total	Claygate	Cobham	East Molesey	Esher	Hinchley Wood	Long Ditton	Oxshott	Stoke D'Abern	Thames Ditton	West Molesey
..	19	2	2	1	6	1	1	1	—	1	4
..	16	2	2	—	6	1	—	1	3	—	1
..	5	—	2	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
..	6	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	327	21	136	15	44	29	25	6	6	31	14
..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
..	7	1	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
..	14	—	1	3	—	4	2	2	—	2	—
..	24	—	7	4	3	1	1	1	—	5	2
..	7	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
..	30	21	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	5	—
TOTAL ..	458	50	153	27	72	36	29	13	9	46	23

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

*Poliomyelitis.*—1955 was an epidemic year for poliomyelitis. Nineteen cases occurred in the Urban District; one case, a baby of 19 months, died. Seven were left with varying degrees of mild paralysis. The remaining 11 were non-paralytic cases.

*Whooping Cough.*—The number of cases notified was 30, continuing the steady decrease since 1951 when the county scheme for immunisation against this disease was commenced. These figures are very encouraging. An intensive effort is being made to immunise all babies with the combined diphtheria and whooping cough prophylactic well before their first birthday.

*Tuberculosis.*—The death rate from this disease has fallen from 0.36 per 1,000 population in 1947 to an average of 0.05 during the past three years.

The notification rate of tuberculosis has also fallen in the past few years to the figure of 0.44 per 1,000 population in 1955.

These figures are most satisfactory and indicate that the preventive measures taken against this disease are beginning to prove effective.

B.C.G. vaccination of school children in the 13 year age group was continued by the school health service.

### NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1955

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
			Non-				Non-	
	Pulmonary M.	F.	Pulmonary M.	F.	Pulmonary M.	F.	Pulmonary M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	2	4	—	3	—	—	—	—
35	5	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
45	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
55	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
65 upw'ds	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
TOTAL	16	8	1	6	3	—	1	—

*Diphtheria.*—No cases occurred in the district for the ninth successive year. Five hundred and four children were immunised against the disease and 633 were given reinforcing doses.

It is hoped that the popularity of whooping cough immunisation will lead to an improvement in the number of children protected against diphtheria, as a combined vaccine is used.

*Measles*.—There were 327 cases. The majority of these occurred in children of over 5 years of age during their first years of school life. Very little can be done to prevent the spread of this disease, but the use of antibiotics has greatly minimized the danger of complications.

*Scarlet Fever*.—Only 14 cases occurred; all of a very mild nature. Most of these were nursed at home.

*Vaccination*.—Details of the number of vaccinations carried out during the year are as follows :—

Number of primary vaccinations	...	...	...	...	...	452
Number of re-vaccinations	...	...	...	...	...	41

*Food Poisoning*.—There was one case of food poisoning, due to *Salmonella typhi-murium*.

*Scabies*.—During 1955 six persons from four families received treatment. All these persons showed definite lesions.

*Verminous Conditions*.—Eight cases of infestation by the head louse from five families were referred to the Department from various sources and received treatment.

## TUBERCULOSIS

Year	Estimated population	New Cases		Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
		No.	Rate per 1,000 population	No.	Rate per 1,000 population	No.	Rate per 1,000 population
1944	43,200	50	1.15	14	0.32	18	0.41
1945	44,060	41	0.93	11	0.24	22	0.49
1946	48,140	31	0.64	7	0.14	16	0.33
1947	49,610	43	0.86	8	0.16	18	0.36
1948	50,790	37	0.73	8	0.15	7	0.14
1949	51,280	49	0.95	6	0.11	16	0.31
1950	51,500	28	0.54	2	0.04	10	0.19
1951	51,210	36	0.70	10	0.19	7	0.14
1952	51,060	49	0.96	6	0.12	10	0.19
1953	51,610	34	0.66	10	0.19	5	0.09
1954	52,470	27	0.51	5	0.09	0	0.00
1955	53,630	24	0.44	7	0.13	3	0.05
						1	0.01

At the end of the year the following number of cases remained on the tuberculosis register :—

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
Males	...	...	...	14
Females	...	...	...	27
Total	271	—	—	41

# NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED YEARLY DURING THE PAST SIX YEARS

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Acute encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	3	1	—
Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	16	1	4	6	—	19
Acute pneumonia ... ..	8	60	25	31	18	16
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	56	69	45	—	3	5
Erysipelas ... ..	4	10	20	7	6	6
Food poisoning ... ..	4	2	7	2	1	1
Malaria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles ... ..	138	986	194	739	213	327
Meningococcal infection ... ..	—	1	1	1	—	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—
Paratyphoid fever ... ..	4	1	—	—	1	—
Puerperal pyrexia ... ..	1	1	6	21	11	7
Scarlet fever ... ..	53	39	107	45	36	14
Tuberculosis (all forms) ... ..	30	46	55	44	32	31
Typhoid fever ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—
Whooping cough ... ..	63	227	84	69	45	30

## NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED MONTHLY DURING 1955

Month	Acute poliomyelitis	Acute pneumonia	Dysentery	Erysipelas	Food poisoning	Malaria	Measles	Meningococcal infection	Puerperal pyrexia	Scarlet fever	Tuberculosis—respiratory	Tuberculosis—other	Whooping cough	Total
January	—	2	—	—	—	—	41	—	1	2	1	—	—	47
February	—	6	—	1	—	—	146	—	2	1	3	—	—	159
March	—	1	—	3	—	—	16	1	2	2	2	—	11	38
April	—	2	—	—	—	1	48	—	—	1	1	—	2	55
May	—	3	1	1	—	—	38	—	—	—	3	1	10	57
June	1	2	1	—	1	—	27	—	—	1	2	—	6	41
July	—	—	1	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	1	—	—	10
August	5	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	2	—	1	12
September	4	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	2	1	—	11
October	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	7
November	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	3	—	14
December	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	7
TOTAL	19	16	5	6	1	1	327	1	7	14	24	7	30	458

## LIST OF SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL CLINICS IN THE URBAN DISTRICT OF ESHER

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE AND IMMUNISATION

North-Central Division of the County (Divisional Medical Officer, Health  
Centre, Grange Road, Kingston-on-Thames. Tel. : Kingston 7261)

CLAYGATE : Church Rooms, Church Road (not on telephone).

General Medical and Maternity and Child Welfare .. ..	Mondays, 1.30 p.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination ..	4th Monday, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Distribution of Welfare Foods ..	Mondays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

COBHAM : Village Hall, Anyards Road (not on telephone).

General Medical and Maternity and Child Welfare .. ..	Thursdays, 1.30 p.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination ..	1st Thursday, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Distribution of Welfare Foods ..	Thursdays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

EAST MOLESEY : The Clinic, St. Mary's Road (Tel.: Molesey 4220).

Maternity and Child Welfare ..	Wednesdays, 1.30 p.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination ..	1st Wednesday, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

EAST MOLESEY : W.V.S. Office, 144-150, Walton Road (not on telephone).

Distribution of Welfare Foods ..	Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.
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ESHER : King George's Hall, High Street (Tel.: Esher 4092).

General Medical and Maternity and Child Welfare .. ..	1st and 3rd Thursdays, 1.30 p.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination ..	3rd Thursday, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Distribution of Welfare Foods ..	Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 2.15 p.m. to 4.45 p.m.

HINCHLEY WOOD : E.F.S. Motors Ltd., Showroom, 32, Station Approach  
(not on telephone).

Distribution of Welfare Foods ..	1st Monday, 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.
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LONG DITTON : Parish Hall, Thorkhill Road (Tel.: Emberbrook 4495).

Maternity and Child Welfare ..	Tuesdays, 1.30 p.m.
General Medical .. ..	Fridays, 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.
Ante-Natal .. ..	Fridays, 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon.
Immunisation and Vaccination ..	2nd Friday, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Distribution of Welfare Foods ..	Tuesdays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

OXSHOTT : Women's Institute, Steels Lane (not on telephone).

Health Visitors' weighing and consultation session .. ..	2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
Distribution of Welfare Foods ..	Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

WEST MOLESEY : Hurst Cottage, Walton Road (Tel.: Molesey 2478).

Maternity and Child Welfare ..	Fridays, 1.30 p.m.
General Medical .. ..	Monday to Friday, 9.30 a.m. to 10.45 a.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination ..	1st Friday, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Ante-Natal .. ..	Mondays, 10.45 a.m. to 12 noon.
Distribution of Welfare Foods ..	Mondays to Fridays, 2.15 p.m. to 4.45 p.m.

# DISTRICT NURSES AND MIDWIVES IN THE ESHER URBAN DISTRICT

## DISTRICT NURSES

*Area Served*

*Name, Address, Telephone No.*

### CLAYGATE :

Mrs. F. M. Hardy, 13, Holroyd Road, Claygate (Esher 3858).

### COBHAM :

\*Miss R. Wright, 9, Wyndham Avenue, Cobham (Cobham 3264).

\*Miss M. Owen, 116, Anyards Road, Cobham (Cobham 3110).

### ESHER :

Miss M. A. Evans, "Myrtle Cottage," The Green, Esher (Esher 4434).

Mrs. E. S. E. Phillips, "Myrtle Cottage," The Green, Esher (Esher 4434).

### EAST AND WEST MOLESEY :

Miss M. V. Burke, 108, Molesham Way, West Molesey (Molesey 2535).

Miss B. Furber, 108, Molesham Way, West Molesey (Molesey 2535).

### OXSHOTT :

\*Miss A. Clement, "Cartref," Danes Hill, Oxshott (Oxshott 258).

### THE DITTONS :

Mrs. C. Bell, 10, Brooklands Road, Thames Ditton (Emberbrook 4631).

## MIDWIVES

### ESHER :

Miss H. V. Lloyd, 1, Telegraph Lane, Claygate (Esher 4840).

### EAST AND WEST MOLESEY :

Miss L. H. Murden, 34, Merton Way, West Molesey (Molesey 2597).

\*District Nurse/Midwife.

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1955

*To the Chairman and Members  
of the Urban District Council of Esher.*

*June, 1956.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my twenty-sixth Annual Report upon the work of your Sanitary Inspectors for the year 1955.

The report is compiled in accordance with the directions contained in a memorandum from the Ministry of Health and as required by Article XXVII(18) of the Sanitary Officers Order, 1935.

It follows the lines of previous reports and, with one or two exceptions, is tabulated.

## COMPLAINTS

The number of complaints received at these Offices and attended to during the year amounted to 267 relative to the following matters :—

Absence of Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	4
Blocked Drains	...	...	...	...	...	45
Damp Walls, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	52
Defective Roofs, Gutters, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	20
Flooding of Gardens and Ditches	...	...	...	...	...	24
Insects, Flies, Beetles, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	17
Need for Cleansing Rooms, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	3
Non-removal of Rubbish	...	...	...	...	...	5
Nuisance from Animals	...	...	...	...	...	4
Offensive Smells	...	...	...	...	...	33
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	3
Verminous Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	11
Defective Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	16
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	30
Total						267

In addition, 11 Notices were received from the Metropolitan Water Board, stating that the water supply had been withdrawn from houses for various reasons.

As each complaint or notice was received, the same was investigated with the least possible delay and dealt with as required by circumstances.

## INSPECTION OF DISTRICT

Number of houses inspected and particulars recorded (Housing Act) ... ..	38
Number of houses and premises inspected (ordinary) ... ..	706
Number of houses and premises re-inspected ... ..	1366
Number of miscellaneous visits ... ..	226
Number of visits to works in progress ... ..	202
Number of visits to bakehouses ... ..	83
Number of visits to factories ... ..	92
Number of visits re food inspections ... ..	129
Number of visits re disinfection ... ..	35
Number of visits re cases of infectious disease ... ..	91
Number of visits re disinfestation ... ..	35
Number of visits re drains tested with smoke or water ... ..	35
Visits re Overcrowding ... ..	15
Visits re Food and Drugs Act, 1938 ... ..	165
Visits re Milk Sampling ... ..	171
Visits re Water Sampling ... ..	18
Visits to Foodshops ... ..	413
Visits to Piggeries ... ..	18
Visits re Ice Cream ... ..	42
Visits re Caravans ... ..	11
Visits to Outworkers' premises ... ..	10
Visits re Shops Act ... ..	5
Visits re Spraying of Ponds, etc. ... ..	15
Visits re Pet Animals Act, 1951 ... ..	1
Visits re conveniences on building sites ... ..	13
Visits re Certificates of Disrepair ... ..	24
Visits re Improvement Grants ... ..	16

## NOTICES SERVED

Informal Notices (written) ... ..	104
Informal Notice (written) Factory ... ..	1
Informal Notices (verbal) ... ..	54
Abatement Notices in respect of nuisances, Section 93, Public Heath Act, 1936 ... ..	36
Abatement Notices to provide covered dustbins for house refuse, Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936 ... ..	3
Formal Notices to drain buildings, Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936 ... ..	8
Abatement Notices as to overflowing or leaking cesspool, Section 50, Public Health Act, 1936 ... ..	2
Notices before Entry, Housing Act, 1936, Section 157 ... ..	35

## LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Legal proceedings were taken against the owners of two properties in default of compliance with abatement notices served upon them under the provisions of Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

In each case the Magistrates made an Order for the work to be carried out within twenty-eight days, failing which the Council were empowered to carry out the work in default. This had to be done in both cases and the cost of the work will be recovered by way of collecting the rent until the debt is discharged as provided by Section 291 (2) of the Public Health Act, 1936, if the owners do not pay the amount expended when the work is completed.

## SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT:—

### DRAINAGE SYSTEMS

Repaired, cleansed, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Completely relaid	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Additional provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Gullies fixed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Stopper fixed in intercepting trap	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cesspools emptied or cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Curbing around gullies repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Septic tank apparatus overhauled	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

### MANHOLES

New provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
New covers fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

### VENTILATING SHAFTS

New mica flap valve fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
F.A.I. provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

### WATER CLOSETS

Additional provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
New pans fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Pans cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
New flushing cisterns fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Seats repaired or new provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Internal walls rendered or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Floor repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ceiling repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
External walls rendered or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Doors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

### SINKS, BATHS, ETC.

New fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
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### WASTE PIPES, ETC.

Waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
New provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Trapped	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Anti-syphonage pipes provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

## RAINWATER PIPES

Repaired ... ..	10
New provided ... ..	41

## WATER SUPPLY

New storage tanks fixed ... ..	2
Water reinstated or laid on ... ..	15
Service pipes repaired ... ..	6
Ball valve repaired or renewed ... ..	1

## DUST RECEPTACLES

Provided ... ..	7
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## DAMPNESS

Roofs repaired ... ..	54
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed ... ..	68
Ventilation provided under floors ... ..	2
External walls pointed ... ..	4
External walls rendered ... ..	22
House walls treated with solution ... ..	28
Sills repaired ... ..	24
Dampcourse fixed ... ..	1

## PAVING, ETC.

Yard pavings repaired ... ..	4
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## GENERAL REPAIRS

External walls repaired ... ..	14
Windows repaired or renewed ... ..	45
House floors repaired or renewed ... ..	30
Doors repaired or renewed ... ..	21
Ranges, coppers or fireplaces repaired or renewed ... ..	17
Internal walls repaired ... ..	89
Ceilings provided ... ..	4
Ceilings repaired or renewed ... ..	30
Rooms cleansed ... ..	155
Accumulations removed ... ..	6
Sashcords renewed ... ..	38
Chimney stacks and chimney pots repaired or renewed ... ..	14
Windows made to open ... ..	10
Skirtings repaired ... ..	33
Rooms ventilated ... ..	4
Reveals to doors and windows repointed ... ..	19
External painting ... ..	1
Stair treads repaired ... ..	1
Handrails provided ... ..	2
Miscellaneous ... ..	16

## HOUSING

Number of houses built by the Council during 1955 ... ..	74
Number in course of construction at the end of the year ... ..	23
Number of houses built by Private Enterprise during 1955 ... ..	551
Number in course of construction at the end of the year ... ..	431
Number of dwellings provided by conversions during 1955 ... ..	5

## HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954

As a result of the survey required to be carried out under Section I of the above Act, 74 houses in the district were inspected and recorded. The majority of these were found to be in need of more or less extensive repair and it is hoped that they will be dealt with in due course either under the provisions of the Public Health Act or the Housing Act. Of this number 34 were considered to come within the scope of Part I of the Act and this figure was submitted to, and accepted by, the Ministry of Local Government and Housing as the Council's proposal for dealing with Slum Clearance within the next five years. Twenty-seven houses are to be dealt with as small clearance areas and seven as individual unfit houses.

The issue of Certificates of Disrepair as provided by Part 2 of the Act has not proved very successful, a total of only 16 certificates being issued. Four of these were eventually revoked, the necessary work specified in the certificate having been carried out.

During the year three old properties were demolished on becoming vacant, viz.: No. 99, Bridge Road, East Molesey, as a result of a Demolition Order made just before the outbreak of the last war, and Nos. 1 and 2, St. Leonard's Cottages, Sugden Road, Thames Ditton. These latter two cottages were demolished to make way for the building of modern maisonettes on the site of St. Leonard's Farm buildings.

## FOOD

The following is a list of diseased or otherwise unsound meat and food which was surrendered and destroyed as being unfit for human consumption :—

	lbs.		lbs.
Bacon ... ..	19	Ice cream powder ... ..	17
Baking powder ... ..	86	Kidneys ... ..	10
Beef ... ..	615	Liver—pigs ... ..	127
Carrots ... ..	25,300	Mustard ... ..	9
Curry powder ... ..	3	Pork ... ..	78
Dates ... ..	21½	Prunes ... ..	30
Egg—albumen ... ..	4½	Rabbits ... ..	32
Egg—dried whole ... ..	476	Rasins ... ..	25
Egg—liquid ... ..	112	Rice—ground ... ..	5
Fish ... ..	503½	Rice—whole ... ..	8
Flour—barley ... ..	10	Sausages ... ..	36
Flour—batter ... ..	3	Soda—bicarbonate ... ..	20
Gelatine ... ..	7	Tongues ... ..	12½
Ginger ... ..	24	Turkey (one) ... ..	9
Ham (6 tins) ... ..	67¾	Veal ... ..	72
Herbs—mixed ... ..	4		

Total : 12 tons, 7 cwt., 2 qrs., 26¼ lbs.

## TINNED, BOTTLED AND OTHER FOOD:—

Arrowroot ... ..	1 tin	Kidneys ... ..	2 tins
Baking powder ...	20 tins	Luncheon meat ...	66 tins
Biscuits—		Meat roll ... ..	48 tins
Assorted (large) ...	10 tins	Milk ... ..	27 bots.
Biscuits (small) ...	4 tins	M. & V. Ration ...	37 tins
Beef cubes ... ..	1,584 cubes	Oysters ... ..	80 tins
Chickens ... ..	42	Pickles ... ..	2 bots.
Cream of tartar ...	6 tins	Preserves ... ..	3 bots.
Christmas puddings ..	66	Salts—Epsom ... ..	2 tins
Fish ... ..	74 tins	Sauce ... ..	57 bots.
Fish paste ... ..	1 jar	Soda—bicarbonate ...	2 tins
Fruit ... ..	199 tins	Soup ... ..	15 tins
Fruit juice ... ..	2 tins	Stewed steak ... ..	4 tins
Gelatine ... ..	240 tins	Vegetables ... ..	91 tins
Jelly crystals ... ..	26 pkts.	Winc essence ... ..	72 bots.

## FOOD TRADE PREMISES

These premises continue to be inspected and the number of food premises in the Urban District are classified under wards as follows :

	Claygate	Cobham	Long Ditton	West Molesey	Esher	Hinchley Wood	Oxshott	East Molesey	Thames Ditton	Total
Bakers ... ..	2	5	—	1	3	2	—	4	4	21
Butchers ... ..	2	3	2	2	3	2	1	9	6	30
Confectioners ... ..	4	14	2	3	10	2	—	15	9	59
Fishmongers ... ..	1	3	1	1	3	—	—	6	3	18
Greengrocers ... ..	5	9	2	3	4	2	—	11	6	42
Grocers ... ..	14	21	9	13	14	4	2	20	15	112
Hotels and Public Houses ...	5	15	3	4	11	1	2	7	11	59
Restaurants, Cafes, etc. ...	4	9	4	5	42	2	2	17	8	93
Totals	37	79	23	32	90	15	7	89	62	434

During the year 413 visits were made to the above food premises.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part : Nil.

There were seven licensed slaughtermen on the Register at the end of the year.

There are no slaughterhouses operating in the urban district.

The results of the samples of milk taken during the year for the purpose indicated are tabulated below :—

	Total	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Samples of raw milk submitted for the detection of Tubercle bacilli ... ..	34	34	—
Samples submitted for the Phosphatase test (obtained from retailers) ... ..	83	83	—
Samples submitted for the Phosphatase test (obtained from schools*) ... ..	28	28	—
Total	145	145	—

\* Cobham C.E. Secondary Mixed, Cobham County Infants', Cobham-Downside J. M., and Infants' (three samples), East Molesey C.E. Junior Boys', East Molesey C.E. Junior Girls, East Molesey County Infants', Esher C.E. J.M. (three samples), Esher C.E. Infants', Fairmile Hatch Nursery School (five samples), Hatchford Park (six samples), Oxshott C.E. J.M., Thames Ditton County J.M., West Molesey County Infants', West Molesey Secondary Boys' (two samples).

### MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

Number of Milk Distributors registered in the area ...	11
Number of premises registered as Dairies (not being Dairy Farms) ... ..	6

Licences under the Milk and Dairies (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations, 1949, have been issued as follows :—

Dealers' Licences to sell "Sterilised" Milk ... ..	14
Dealers' Licences to sell "Pasteurised" Milk ... ..	15
Supplementary Licences to sell "Sterilised" Milk ... ..	7
Supplementary Licences to sell "Pasteurised" Milk ... ..	9

Licences under the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, have been issued as follows :—

Dealers' Licences to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk ... ..	16
Supplementary Licences to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk ... ..	9

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Sampling has been continued throughout the year, a total of 165 samples of various food and drugs having been obtained and submitted to the Council's Public Analyst.

This total represents an average of 3.07 samples per 1,000 of the population based on the Registrar General's estimated population figure of 53,630 for 1955.

The following tables gives details of the samples obtained :—

	Formal	Informal
Apples, prunes, and custard ... ..	—	1
Arrowroot ... ..	—	1
Batter mixture ... ..	—	1
Beer—bitter ... ..	5	—
Black pudding ... ..	1	—
Blancmange powder—chocolate ... ..	—	1
Boracic powder ... ..	—	2
Brawn—pork ... ..	1	—
Butter ... ..	21	—
Butterscotch ... ..	—	1
Cabbage—pickled red ... ..	—	1
Cake mixture—walnut ... ..	—	1
Calves foot jelly ... ..	—	1
Chewing gum—laxative ... ..	—	1
Chicklettes ... ..	1	—
Cider ... ..	1	—
Cinnamon ... ..	—	1
Coconut—dessicated ... ..	—	1
Coffee ... ..	—	2
Cordials ... ..	—	3
Corned beef ... ..	1	—
Curry powder ... ..	—	4
Dessert—table ... ..	—	2
Flour—confectionery ... ..	—	19
Horseradish sauce ... ..	—	1
Indigestion mixture ... ..	—	1
Jam—apple and blackcurrant ... ..	—	1
Jam—blackcurrant ... ..	—	1
Jam—raspberry ... ..	—	1
Jelly—table, greengage ... ..	—	1
Lemon essence ... ..	—	1
Luncheon meat ... ..	1	—
Luncheon meat—pork ... ..	2	—
Luncheon sausage ... ..	2	—
Margarine ... ..	1	—
Meat tenderiser ... ..	—	1
Milk ... ..	30	3
Mincemeat ... ..	—	2
Mint sauce ... ..	—	1
Paste—tomato ... ..	—	1
Paste—salmon and shrimp ... ..	—	1
Peas—garden tinned ... ..	—	1
Pepper—white ... ..	—	1
Pickle—Military ... ..	—	1
Preserve—Sunny Spread ... ..	—	1
Pudding—fruit ... ..	—	1
Raisins—chocolate coated ... ..	—	1
Rice—creamola ... ..	—	1
Sage ... ..	—	1
Sago ... ..	—	1
Salad cream ... ..	—	1
Salami ... ..	1	—
Salt—celery ... ..	—	1
Saucc—fruit ... ..	—	1
Sausagemeat—pork ... ..	1	—

						Formal	Informal	
Sausages—beef	...	...	...	...	...	3	—	
Sausages—pork	...	...	...	...	...	7	—	
Saveloys	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	
Sponge mixture	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	
Stomach powder	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	
Stout	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	
Suet—beef shredded	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	
Sugar—confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	—	5	
Tea	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	
Veal, ham and egg pie	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	
Vinegar	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	
Whiskey	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	
						85	80	
						—	—	
Genuine	...	164	Not Genuine	...	1	Total	...	165

The following statement gives details of the samples reported upon adversely by the Public Analyst :—

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Article</i>	<i>Details of Irregularity</i>
	<i>(F. formal. I. informal)</i>	<i>This sample contained an</i>
28	1. Curry Powder	excess of lead.

#### *Action Taken*

No legal proceedings taken. Vendor surrendered remainder of his stock (3 lb.) which he had purchased during the late war period.

## ICE CREAM

Forty-two samples of ice cream were taken during the year for bacteriological examination with the following results :—

Provisional grade	No. of samples	Rate % of the total number of samples taken
1	33	78.57
2	3	07.15
3	4	09.52
4	2	04.76

For comparison the years 1953 and 1954 are given below :—

Provisional grade	1953		Provisional grade	1954	
	No. of samples	Rate %		No. of samples	Rate %
1	24	80.00	1	44	86.27
2	3	10.00	2	2	03.92
3	3	10.00	3	5	09.81
4	—	00.00	4	—	00.00

NOTE.—The provisional grades which are referred to above are those introduced by the Ministry of Health. They are based on the number of organisms in the ice cream absorbing oxygen, and this is shown by the reduction of colour in methylene blue which is an aniline dye.

After incubation, the quicker the reduction of the colour the poorer the quality of the ice cream.

The four grades recommended are as follows :—

Grade 1 (best quality)	time taken to reduce methylene blue	4½ hrs. or over
Grade 2	" " " "	" " 2½ hrs. to 4 hrs.
Grade 3	" " " "	" " ½ hr. to 2 hrs.
Grade 4	" " " "	" " 0 hrs.

The methylene blue test does not indicate the types of organisms present, but shows the number of organisms as a whole present in the ice cream.

It could be said to show the bacterial cleanliness of the ice cream.

The majority of shops now sell ice cream in pre-packed cartons, thus eliminating the risk of contamination from the time of manufacture to the time it is consumed.

## FACTORIES

The number of visits made under the Factories Act, 1937, was 188 as follows :—

83 to Bakehouses.

92 to other Factory premises.

13 to other premises in which Section 7 is enforced.

Seventeen bakehouses have mechanical power and eight are without mechanical power. There are no underground bakehouses.

The number of factories in the district with mechanical power is 204.

The number of factories in the district without mechanical power is 52.

The number of workplaces is 45.

The number of Certificates issued as to means of escape in case of fire, as provided by Section 34 of the Factories Act, 1937, was two.

# PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors) :—

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	52	43	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	204	132	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	12	13	1	—
TOTAL ... ..	268	188	1	—

## 2. Cases in which Defects were found :

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	8	8	—	2	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..	1	1	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..	2	2	—	1	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ..	6	6	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ... ..	1	1	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ... ..	1	1	—	2	—
TOTAL ... ..	20	20	—	8	—
Outwork (Sections 110 and 111) ... ..					Nil

## SHOPS ACT, 1950

Three complaints were received as to contravention of the Act as follows :—

Selling goods on a Sunday ...	...	...	...	...	2
Other irregularities ...	...	...	...	...	1

Each complaint was investigated and the matter rectified.

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The destruction of rats and mice in the district continues to be satisfactory. The majority of the infestations were of a minor type and were generally found in most parts of the area.

The routine testing of public sewers was waived this year owing to the negative results found in 1954.

The arrangement with the Education Authority for School Canteens to be treated for fly and other insect infestation continues, and also the contracts for the destruction of rats and mice at these premises.

Agreements with proprietors of business and premises other than private dwellings to the value of £350 15s. 0d. for carrying out the extermination of rats, mice and other pests, were made during the year.

Thirty-five foxes were killed on the Commons and adjacent properties in co-operation with the Surrey Agricultural Executive Committee Officers.

Statistical details of the service relating to properties during 1955 are set out on the next page.

# PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949. Report for 12 months ended 31st March, 1956.

## TYPE OF PROPERTY

	Non-Agricultural				(5) Agricultural
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All other (inc. Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3)	
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District .. .. .	68	17,721	1,143	18,932	32
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of (a) notification, (b) survey under the Act, (c) otherwise, e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose .. .. .	(a) — (b) 10 (c) —	840 80 —	54 57 —	894 147 —	2 32 —
III. Total inspections carried out, including re-inspections .. .. .	182	1,444	971	2,597	49
IV. Number of properties inspected (in Section II) which were found to be infested by : (a) Rats, (b) mice .. .. .	2 Major 10 Minor Mice — Major — Minor	— 619 — 60	— 42 — 39	2 671 — 99	— — — —
V. Number of infested properties (in Section IV) treated by the Local Authority .. .. .	12	679	81	672	—
VI. Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments (figures given <i>where available</i> ) .. .. .	29	—	250	—	—
VII. Number of notices served under Section IV :— (a) Treatment .. .. . (b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing) .. .. .	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of a notice under Section IV of the Act .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
IX. Legal proceedings .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—
X. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out .. .. .	—	8	1	9	—

## RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

There are no premises in this urban district where flock is manufactured. There are only three premises where rag flock or other filling materials is stored for use in connection with the business of upholstery, and these premises are registered.

No samples were taken during the year.

## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

The main purpose of this Act is the enforcement of the Protection of Animals Acts in their application to the business of selling pets.

The prescribed fee for a licence is 10/-.

Four applications were received : two from Cobham, one from East Molesey, and one from Esher, and in each instance the Council decided, after an inspection and report, to grant a licence.

## RAINFALL

Table showing rainfall in the district during 1955, taken at the Sewage Purification Works, Esher.

January	... ..	1.98 ins.	August	... ..	1.38 ins.
February	... ..	1.22 ..	September	... ..	1.60 ..
March	... ..	.91 ..	October	... ..	2.44 ..
April	... ..	.23 ..	November	... ..	.95 ..
May	... ..	3.52 ..	December	... ..	1.87 ..
June	... ..	2.03 ..			
July	... ..	.31 ..			
					Total 18.44 ins.

Compared with the figures for the previous year this is a decrease of 8.14 inches.

Average yearly rainfall for the past five years : 24.21 inches.

## SPRAYING PONDS AND DITCHES

The systematic spraying of ponds, ditches, water courses and water holes in the district with Mosquito Oil has been carried out as in previous years.

In conclusion, I desire to place on record my appreciation of the support given by everyone in the Department and to thank the officers and staff of the other Departments of the Council for their ready co-operation and helpfulness.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

REGINALD F. WHEELER,

*Senior Sanitary Inspector.*